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# LOUISIANA'S TRIBUTE

TO THE MEMORY OF

# ABRAHAM LINCOLN,

President of the United States.

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*Public Demonstration in the City of New Orleans.*

**APRIL 22, 1865.**

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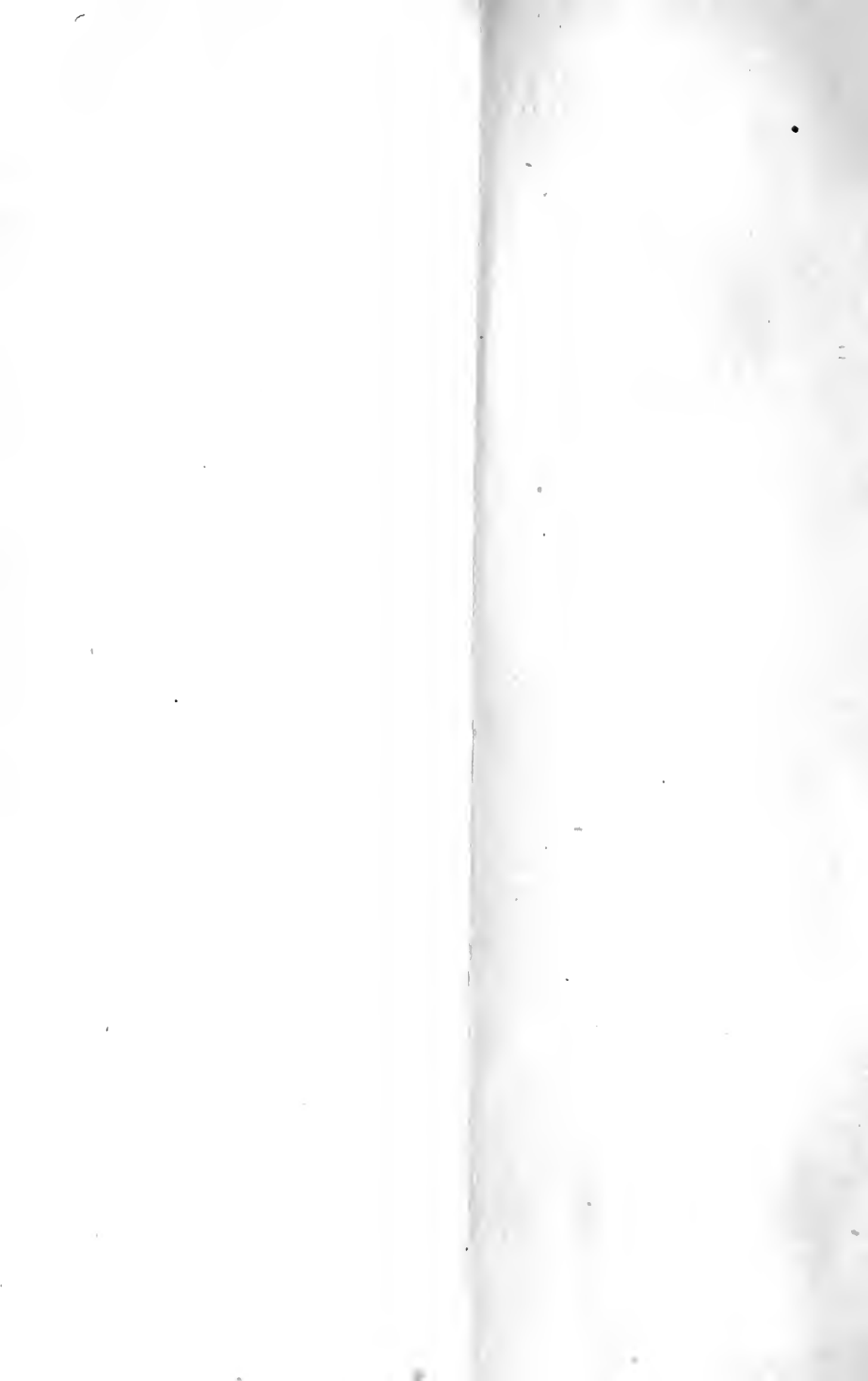
RESOLUTIONS, SPEECHES OF CHRISTIAN ROSELIUS  
AND OTHERS, ETC., ETC.,

COMPILED BY J. S. WHITAKER, CHAIRMAN.

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NEW ORLEANS:  
PICAYUNE OFFICE JOB PRINT, 66 CAMP STREET.

1865.





NEW ORLEANS, APRIL 14, 1881.

HON. WILLIAM E. SHUTT, SPRINGFIELD, ILLS.:

*My Dear Sir—*

When, in the summer of 1878, I visited Springfield, one of the chief pleasures I experienced was in passing over places made to certain extent sacred as having been once the home of Abraham Lincoln. You remember how I was struck with the simplicity of his dwelling, and how the recital of many incidents of his noble and unaustentatious life as a citizen of Illinois interested me.

With you I finally visited the tomb in your beautiful Cemetery, where repose his remains, and while in the crypt or chamber in the monument I examined the various records commemorative of the life of our martyred President, and read the eulogiums pronounced upon him in every State and city of this vast nationality he so largely contributed to save.

Among all these I found no fitting memorial from the State of Louisiana where the news of his terrible taking off by the hands of an assassin produced as much of grief, and of horror, as in any other portion of the Union.

In the following pages taken from "The New Orleans Times," then conducted by my friend Thomas P. May, Esq., you will find the proceedings by which our people sought to demonstrate their sorrow and their appreciation of our national loss.

By placing these memorials among others in the Monument you will, while conferring a favor on me personally, preserve, what I esteem, an earnest tribute to one of the greatest and noblest characters, that has adorned the annals of our Country

Respectfully, Yours,

J. S. WHITAKER.

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We extract the following leading article of the N. O. Times of the morning of 19th, of April, from the pen of Thos. P. May.

#### ASSASSINATION OF THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE.

The astounding intelligence which it is our painful duty this morning to announce, will paralyze our readers with a sense of unutterable horror, as it must already have paralyzed the mass of the people of the United States. It is difficult to

bring the mind to conceive of an atrocity so swift and terrible, unrelenting and devilish. The civilized world will stand shuddering and appalled at the contemplation of so black a deed, and try vainly for words to characterize its utter enormity. The blows struck at President Lincoln and Secretary Seward have gone to the core of the great heart of the nation. The poignant anguish of those fatal wounds penetrate the bosoms of the loyal millions of our country. It seems terrible that the great epoch of a nation's redemption from a vast and prolonged conspiracy, must needs have been marked by a deed so foul, and a bereavment so afflictive; that the leader of the nation, through its terrible night of civil war, and his chief adviser, must needs have fallen by the hands of assassins before they could witness the fruition of what they have so long, so ardently and ably labored for.

Our heart and hand fail us in the further contemplation of this inexpressibly painful tragedy, for which history furnishes no parallel of enormity.

The country mourns a terrible bereavment. Let us bow in submission to this awful decree of Almighty God, and pray and trust that out of this great affliction good may come to the nation at last.

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In the Evening's issue of the Times of the 19th, appeared the following.

The melancholy news of this morning struck every one with horror at the cowardly deed, which has bereaved the Nation of its head and afflicted the people that delighted to do him honor. Seconding the desire of the people the Mayor of the city at once took steps to declare all city business suspended, at the same time that the bells of the city be rung at twelve o'clock, and the official places hung with crape, and such testimonials as would show the sympathy of our people with the Nation in this calamity. The citizens met at Liberty Hall, for the purpose of giving expression to their sentiments at this unholy and nefarious deed.

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#### CALLED TO ORDER.

Thos. J. Durant arose and stating that the Nation and our people stood aghast at this most appalling crime, suggested the propriety of taking immediate action and nominated Judge Howell, of the Supreme Court, as chairman.

Before taking his seat the Chairman of the meeting confessed that words were inadequate to express his deep horror at this most atrocious and appalling crime. The deepest feelings were those that were inexpressible. The heart of the nation was now throbbing painfully at the misfortune which had befallen the people in the loss of Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States. He could only hope that, in the providence of God, even this calamity might work for good.

The nomination of T. P. May as Secretary of the meeting was accepted unanimously.

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#### THE SENTIMENTS.

The sentiments of each one of the speakers, of every citizen present, whatever his occupation or his calling, was of the most unfeigned regret as well as horror at the atrocity of the crime. These sentiments were uttered as each one of the speakers made suggestions as to the steps which should be taken in the matter. There was no difference of opinion, the only difference being as to the best mode of expressing the feeling of the people.

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#### THE RESULT OF THE DELIBERATIONS.

After many suggestions as to the place of meeting, after several motions were argued, it was finally concluded that a committee of five be appointed, on whom should devolve all arrangements necessary for the assembly of the citizens on Saturday next. The President appointed on this committee Judge Whitaker, W. T. Gilbert, D. Emley, J. G. Belden, B. Campbell—Judge J. S. Whitaker to act as chairman.

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#### THE DISTRICT COURTS CLOSED.

The Judges of the District Courts held a joint session in the rooms of the Second Court, and proposed resolutions concerning the recent calamity. The following is an extract from the minutes of this meeting:

*Whereas*, The nation is called upon to mourn a great national calamity which has befallen it, in the untimely death of Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, and of William H. Seward, Secretary of State:

*Be it resolved,* That we, the Judges of the six District Courts of New Orleans, considering it eminently proper as a mark of the high respect and esteem in which the deceased were held, and recognizing their many virtues, do adjourn until Monday, the 24th inst.

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STATE OFFICES ORDERED TO BE CLOSED.

STATE OF LOUISIANA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }  
New Orleans, April 19, 1865. }

Owing to the mournful news of the death of the President of the United States and Secretary of State, under circumstances calculated to strike horror to the minds of all good citizens, it is hereby ordered that all offices connected with the State be closed to-day and to-morrow, the 20th inst.

J. MADISON WELLS, Governor of Louisiana.

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ACTION BY THE FIRST DISTRICT COURT.

At the opening of the First District Court this morning, on motion of the Attorney General, and on suggesting that a telegram announcing the appalling news that two great and illustrious citizens of this Republic—Abraham Lincoln, our honored and immortal President, and our world-renowned Secretary of State, Wm. H. Seward—have fallen in the plenitude of their fame at the hands of diabolical *assassins*, on account of the devotion of the said President and Secretary to American liberty and the rights of man, it is ordered, that this court do now adjourn till Thursday (to-morrow) morning, at 10 o'clock, to enable all its officers and employees to take part in the ceremonies of mourning and woe.

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ACTION OF THE FIREMEN'S CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION.

FIREMEN'S CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION, }  
New Orleans, April 19, 1865—12 o'clock. }

The Fire Department of this city, in view of the sad calamity which has befallen the country in the death of the President of the United States and of the Secretary of State, are requested to suspend the national flag at half-mast from their respective Engine Houses immediately after the publication of this notice.

I. N. MARKS, President.

ALFRED BELANGER, Chief Engineer.

## ACTION OF THE FIREMEN'S CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION.

The Firemen's Charitable Association, as will be noticed by the advertisement, have requested the Fire Department of New Orleans to raise the flag at half-mast over all the Engine Houses, as a mark of sorrow in view of the great national bereavement.

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## THE FOREIGN CONSULS.

The flags of the offices of the foreign consuls in this city are at half-mast to-day, in appropriate observance of the terrible affliction which has befallen the country.

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## THE CUSTOMHOUSE.

The various offices in the Customhouse are draped in mourning, and business is suspended.

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## THE POSTOFFICE.

The Postoffice is closed for the day, and preparations are making to drape the exterior of the building in mourning.

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From the Times of April 20, 1865.

## THE APPEARANCE OF THE CITY YESTERDAY.

The history of New Orleans can furnish few instances of such wide-spread gloom and depression as that exhibited yesterday. The closing of places of business was almost universal, and altogether unprecedented. Considering the short time for preparation, the number of buildings draped with crape was little less than surprising. The display of flags and mourning drapery was too general to admit of particularization. There was scarcely a public office not thus mournfully adorned. Conspicuous among the private residences which were draped were those of Hon. J. Durant and Hon. T. P. May. The Catholic Church on Common street, and the Charity Hospital, also displayed the emblems of mourning. Col. Saunders & Co., Camp street, were not behind hand in the general display. The decorations of the National Bank and the United States Treasury Buildings were especially chaste and tasteful.

The public schools were dismissed at an early hour, and thousands of children helped to make up the crowds which thronged the streets.

## THE PUBLIC FEELING.

Early yesterday morning movements were made towards organizing a public demonstration to show the respect in which our people hold the memory of Abraham Lincoln and Wm. H Seward, and the deep sorrow and utter detestation and abhorrence they feel at their shocking murder. The most earnest indignation is everywhere expressed. Political differences, even of the gravest character are everywhere forgotten, in contemplation of this awful national calamity and disgrace. Words are too feeble to express the popular emotion, but it is fitting that our citizens should pay a public tribute to the virtues and greatness of these faithful patriots thus taken from the post of duty. We invite general attention to the report of a public meeting published in another column. We trust that it will be thought proper to advise a general mourning, and that the Governor will issue his proclamation for a day of fasting and prayer, in view of this terrible dispensation. The history of the world offers no parallel to this enormous crime. Never had nation greater cause for woe.

The flags displayed throughout the city were at half mast, and in many cases draped with black.



## THE GREAT TROUBLE.

The gloom which overspread this community on the reception of the news of the assault upon the President of the United States and his chief Secretary, and the dire results of the attack, deepens as fuller details are received, and the public has had time to dwell upon the enormity of the crime and the loss it occasions. Language is feeble to describe the despondency prevailing everywhere. The universal sorrow which is written on every countenance, which caused business men to close their doors, and drape whole streets with the habiliments of grief, in its mute eloquence speaks as can neither tongue nor pen. The strife of politics is hushed, the eagerness of trade disappears, personal matters are wholly forgotten, in the mourning of the citizen for a nation disgraced, a people insulted, and patriots struck down by the cowardly blow of the assassin, in the midst of great and loving and noble work for the common weal. We bow before the terrible

stroke, and try to see that it comes from a beneficent Ruler who turns the wrath of man to His glorious praise.

There is in the midst of this great trouble a single gleam of light, flickering and feeble indeed; but it awakens hope that Seward may yet be spared for further usefulness to the people he has so splendidly served. His severe illness and great exhaustion, the result of a most untimely accident, leave little room to hope for that recovery every lover of America desires, but which was deemed doubtful before he was the object of the dastardly and murderous attack upon his sick bed. How horrible was this deed! An old man, enfeebled by long years of constant devotion to his country's interests, wasted by age and by illness, is the victim of the assassin's knife in the peace of his chamber, when surrounded by his anxious family and attendants, who become themselves the sharers of the doom marked out for him. The world's history gives no more hideous recital.

If the mind of Abraham Lincoln is cognizant of events transpiring on earth, in the lamentations which are everywhere poured forth by a grateful and loving people because of his strange martyrdom, he finds reward enough for the immeasurable service he has rendered the people whose ruler and servant he has been. No one of our Presidents was more truly a representative of his constituents; no one more universally loved by them. He had won success; had saved his country; was worn, if not weary, in well-doing. He goes to his rest a victor in the cause of patriotism, a pure man in the midst of temptation, loved and wept for by his fellow-citizens. He is twice immortalized. He was liberator and martyr. The religious tone of his inaugural address now seems to read like inspiration.

The whole world will shudder at the tale of this Good Friday in America. The horrors of that holy day have created here an earnest revulsion of feeling in favor of the cause of Government. It will be so abroad.

Death did not come to Abraham Lincoln till he saw the rich first fruits of his labors.

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From the New Orleans Times of April 22, 1865.

To-day will long be remembered by the citizens of New

Orleans. The feelings of mingled grief and horror, under which they had labored since the hearing of the mournful tidings of the death of our President, to-day found its becoming and decorous expression.

Every house in the city was draped in the garments of woe. The humblest citizen found means to give some outward testimony of his inner feeling of grief, whilst families of wealthier standing literally hung their houses in black.

At an early hour crowds of people thronged the streets, each one with some insignia of mourning worn upon the person. They were all tending toward Lafayette Square, where the great demonstration of the day was about to take place.

The different fire companies, in full uniform, wearing mourning badges, were on the streets marching by thousands in the same direction. A large number of societies in full regalia with solemn music, went onward toward the same bourne. The mechanic dropped his tools, the merchant forsook his counting-house, the poor became full brethren of the rich for at least an hour, in the universal and honorable anxiety to pay one last tribute to the memory of Abraham Lincoln.

Lafayette Square about 12 M. presented a most solemn and impressive spectacle. A large stand, for the accommodation of speakers and distinguished men, draped appropriately, was in the centre, and around it was an immense throng swaying to and fro, silent, sombre and mournful, listening in sad attention to the speakers and anon to the funeral notes of the band as its dirgelike music wailed forth upon the wind. The immense assemblage of our Fire Department was a conspicuous feature, and the waving banners, innumerable flags, decorated with all the insignia of grief, made it even more impressive. The square, large as it is, could not hold the immense assemblage.

Far around the streets were blocked up by people innumerable. All was quiet and orderly. All appeared to realize the solemn occasion, and each seemed to feel that as an American citizen mourning for his Chief Magistrate, father, brother and friend, he had a personal responsibility in observing a decorum proper to the day and to the memory of the august dead.

The ladies of New Orleans lent their presence to the scene in token of their grief for the untimely end of the second Father of his Country.



## THE MEETING IN LAFAYETTE SQUARE.

From two corners of the platform fell the national bunting tied at half-mast. So from the centre of the stand in the rear from corner to corner, the flag outspread, was also at half-mast. On the outside on each face of the four-sided stand, white and heavy black mingled their folds and enveloped the whole exterior. The body of the stand was filled with the citizens who had called the meeting at Liberty Hall.

As each of the Associations arrived the banner bearer stood with banner and mottoes beside the platform. Soon the platform was surrounded by a wall of banners and appropriate insignia from each of the Benevolent Associations. As the eye swept around the stand there never was a more glorious sight presented. There is always something glorious about the homage paid by men to departed worth.

Before the actual commencement of the exercises, mournful music from brass bands wailed out in mournful tones the requiem.

In the midst of the solemn tolling of bells the ceremonies commemorative of Abraham Lincoln commenced, and the passing bell was chorussed by muffled drums.

## THE ORGANIZATION.

Thos. P. May, Esq., called the meeting to order, by request, and organized the assembly by nominating the following officers:

## PRESIDENT,

Hon. J. S. WHITAKER.

## VICE PRESIDENTS.

A. A. Atocha,  
Christian Schneider,  
Fred. Wintz,  
J. S. Walton,  
J. W. Thomas,  
Charles W. Hornor,  
Alex. Bullitt,  
D. S. Dewees,  
Bernard Marigny,  
Dr. Greenleaf,  
A. D. Grieff,  
A. F. Hickman,  
E. W. Huntington,

A. P. Field,  
Daniel Edwards,  
C. A. Miltenberger,  
Dr. J. L. Riddell,  
H. McGuinn,  
W. H. Letchford,  
David Bidwell,  
Thomas P. May,  
H. R. Gogreve,  
Dr. B. H. Moss,  
John I. Adams,  
Nelson McStea,  
Julian Neville,

Wm. Mithoff,  
S. B. Newman,  
Alf. Shaw,  
Robert Hare,  
A. Miltenberger,  
H. T. Lonsdale,  
Hu Kennedy,  
James Graham,  
Dr. M. M. Dowler,  
E. Giquel,  
Thomas A. Adams,  
Robert Slark,  
E. J. Hart,

Albin Rochereau,	A. M. Holbrook,	Isaac N. Marks,
Bradish Johnson,	P. Oscar Labatut,	L. F. Generes,
John Kemp, Jr.,	Jules Blanc,	Dr. Holliday,
B. F. Flanders,	W. W. Handlin,	J. M. Cabellero,
A. B. James,	J. A. Maybin,	Dr. M. Schuppert,

And a large number of others of our most prominent citizens.

## SECRETARIES.

Jos. P. Hornor,    Jas. T. Tucker,    E. R. Hogan,    W. H. Higgins.

Immediately upon the organization of the assembly, Judge J. S. Whitaker advanced to the front of the platform and spoke as follows:

*Friends and Fellow-Citizens*—I scarcely know what language to employ on the present occasion. The vast concourse of people surrounding me met to commemorate the life and virtues of our martyred President, the sombre drapery, the solemn music, the tolling bells, the upturned faces of the multitude so expressive of grief and bereavement, the consciousness of a great and irreparable loss, reaching far beyond the present vast assemblage and felt by all the millions of a great nation, all these outward attendants upon a fearful public calamity, prevent the full heart from utterance. There is, however, in a scene like this an eloquence more powerful than words. We cannot always give to sorrow words. A whole people in Abraham Lincoln mourns the loss of a friend, a benefactor, a savior of the State—snatched away in the very moment when he had completed his immortal work. Stainless, pure and illustrious, this second founder of American liberty has left for us, his countrymen, a name and fame that time can not wither.

We are here to-day to declare our horror and detestation of the crime which caused his taking off. We are here to express our love and honor for the man who has accomplished so much for the preservation and union of these States. We are here to recount his virtues, and, so far as in us lies, do honor to his memory.

The remarks of Judge Whitaker being concluded, the Rev. Dr. J. P. Newman offered an eloquent and impressive prayer appropriate to the occasion.

The Chairman, Judge Whitaker, then read the names of the following gentlemen appointed by him to draft resolutions for the consideration of the meeting:

Wm. R. Whitaker, Thomas P. May, James Graham, Wm. R. Mills, Cuthbert Bullitt, Dr. J. White, Michael Hahn, R. K. Howell, Alfred Shaw.

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The President then presented to the audience Major General Hurlbut, late Commander of the Department of the Gulf, who spoke as follows :

SPEECH OF MAJOR GENERAL HURLBUT.

*Fellow-Citizens*—With all these outward demonstrations surrounding me; with those flags—the flags of our common country—at half-mast; the habiliments of woe and draperies that surround the balconies and porches of your fair city; the still, steady countenances of this vast assemblage, with the burden that every man feels at his heart—we are assembled here this day to express our sorrow for the greatest calamity that has ever befallen human progress since the world was. It is well that here, in this city of New Orleans—from the banks of this magnificent river—the child of the Union, the creature of that vast commerce that sweeps back to the Rocky Mountains on the one side, and the Alleghanies on the other, it is well that you, citizens of this city and this State—the spoiled and petted child of this Union—should recognize here to-day the obligation and duties that fall upon you as citizens of this great Republic, whose head and front has been stricken down by the hand of the assassin. It is well, too—as the remarks that have fallen from my friend who led us in prayer on this solemn occasion have indicated—it is well for us all to peer deeply down into our hearts, for since the day when unholy men crucified the very Lord of Grace, no such crime has been perpetrated or known in the pages of history, as this which has brought us here to-day. The parallel holds good, be it spoken with due reverence for the truest and best, most thorough and most powerful friend to the madmen who, in their frenzy and fanaticism, have laid him low, was Abraham Lincoln, late President of these United States.

Let me, then, here to-day, in the first place recognize the deep detestation and horror which should fill every heart, wherever it is—under whatever sun—at the atrocity and enormity of the horror which has darkened this country with grief. We meet here for the purpose of paying some fit and

feeble tribute to the memory of the great man who had led our country through these last four years of agony and sorrow. We meet here as citizens of a common Union, as children of the same soil by birth or by voluntary adoption. And it may be that there are those here who come under neither of those descriptions, but are denizens of these United States while remaining under their national flag, while quietly dwelling under the broad protection of our banner, and to all of these classes of men this day is momentous.

I do not propose to speak at length here and on this occasion of the life and public services of Abraham Lincoln. I dare not trust myself with the task. I but little thought, years ago, before he was elevated to the Presidency of the United States—before war had spread her blood-stained wing over our country—when I used to meet him in the ordinary course of civil life in my own adopted State, I little thought that after four years of service under our flag in suppressing rebellion, that I should stand in this central park of New Orleans, in the service of my country, to speak words of eulogy upon the death of him, the President of these United States. But of the past we are secure. Glory, honor, the praise of all good men, have crowned his eventful career, and when in the providence of Almighty God, to whose inscrutable decrees we must all bow; just as the ruby dawn of peace was breaking upon our distracted country; just when that gentle heart, that true, affectionate, honest man, seemed most required to throw the impulse and pressure of his power upon the question of reconstruction—just then it pleased God that a cowardly and brutal murderer should strike down this great man by a blow—dastard like—from behind, and in the very presence of his wife.

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*Fellow-Citizens*—The record of President Lincoln is before the nation and the world. I affirm that in the whole history of the world, not excluding him who, by common consent, is known as the Father of his Country, was there ever presented so spotless, so pure, so generous, so simple, so truthful, so energetic a character. Politics have ceased; there are no politics in these United States; there are no parties in these United States. Elected originally as the representative of a party,

this great man became the representative of every loyal heart in the nation. There is nothing now but a nation; nothing that divides us but the national quarrel. How widely and how entirely did he spread his inviting arms to call in all these wanderers. What has he not done for this place and this people? It is to him that you owe your existence as a State and a city, and thus it is that this occasion is so momentous.

Whatever you have of civil order, of civil law, is the free gift of Abraham Lincoln, the tendernesses and charities of whom were as inevitable to his nature as light to the sun. They came from him as water boils from a spring; the deep fountains of his nature yielded uncounted supplies of all kindness and benevolence; such a man, so surrounded by all pleasant influences; such a man, in the very pride and dignity of his great office, has fallen by the hand of a cut-throat and a bravo, and the American nation, which has held its head high for its civilization and its courage, is disgraced by the knowledge that the crimes of all the worn out barbarism of Europe are to be repeated and renewed among us.

We, the officers of the army and soldiers here, revered him as our comrade. A man, wholly unused to military affairs, he has yet taken so deep an interest in them that probably no man in the Cabinet at Washington could more closely follow and more thoroughly understand the movements and combinations of our great leaders. A man who never had mingled much in the craft of statesmanship, he yet having assumed those duties, recognized at once that the true policy for a bold and brave people was to follow the righteous instincts of a just heart and an enlightened intellect. He has educated this people up to the position they now hold, and at last—crowned with honor—having reached the very topmost round of the ladder of human ambition, he has stepped from that to Heaven, there to receive his reward—"Well done good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Let me remind you of one thing more, and I am done. The President may die; the Nation lives! Individuals may perish; the superstructure of our government stands! Stands and will stand, and the gates of Death and Hell shall not

prevail against it. [Great applause.] We are now rebuilding the shattered portions of that glorious fabric, and it stands based upon the throbbing, pulsating joy of brave hearts of millions upon millions of freemen, and while God's mercy continues, and while God's law continues, this American Republic, founded on universal right and universal freedom, will challenge the admiration, the applause, and, if need be, the fear of the world.

Thus, then, we are led to the fact that our duties are still as incumbent upon us as ever. The great gap that has been made in the ostensible leaders of government will be filled. The glorious memory of the President will remain to us, but the solemn, assured, onward, determined, inevitable march of this great people to the consummation of her destiny can not and will not be stopped. While, then, we mourn the lost man, brother and ruler, we know that the blow that struck him can not strike the vitals of the Nation. Here we are, here we are ready to be, each man in his place—officers, soldiers, citizens, workmen—all, everywhere, of all complexions and castes, working for the one straightforward object—the perpetuation of human freedom, the progress of human destiny, through God's great agent, the American Union.

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After a short interval, Judge Whitaker introduced the present Commander of the Department of the Gulf, who spoke as follows :

SPEECH OF MAJOR GENERAL N. P. BANKS.

*Mr. President and Fellow-Citizens*—It is only since my arrival upon this platform that I have been informed of the part I am expected to take in the ceremonies of this occasion, and could wish for longer preparation, with the view of doing more perfect justice to the subject of the hour, but in accordance with the wishes of your committee I will proceed. God knows why it is, or how it is, or for what purpose it is, that we have been summoned here, but now, indeed, can we feel the nothingness of man, and that it is best for us to bow in supplication to God for His counsel and support. The language of the hour is not of comment, not of condolence, not of consolation, but of supplication, and we should stand before the throne of

God to-day, in sackcloth and in ashes, in silent petition to Him for that counsel and support.

Human plans are failures; the ideas and purposes of God alone are successful. This very week was spontaneously and unanimously set apart by the American people as a season for thanksgiving and joy, for the great relief which the people had experienced from a terrible war, which had bereft nearly every family in the North and South of its dearest, and draped nearly every family altar as is now draped the national altar. Suddenly the skies were brightened, and universal peace was accepted by the nation as the reward of the terrible struggle in which we had been engaged. The opening of the Mississippi, the brilliant victories of the Army of the Cumberland in 1863, the fall of the rebel cities upon the Atlantic coast before the triumphant march of Sherman, the surrender of Lee to Grant, and the occupation of Mobile by the gallant chieftain who is here in our presence to-day, [great applause,] not waiting for the intelligence that the last army of the rebellion had surrendered to the glorious Sherman—all justified the assumption that God had given this nation permanent, lasting, honorable and glorious peace! But while we were preparing for the announcement by the officers of the government—always behind in instincts and purposes of power, the people of the government, unexpectedly, in the twinkling of an eye—as if with the suddenness, strength and power of God—all of us lay low in sorrow, mourning and despair. I believe that never before in human history were a people so horrified as by the announcement of the death of the President, and the fall of his great assistant in council and action, the Secretary of State. We know not why it is, but we have the great consolation to say that we believe it is for good to our nation. Aye, for good to the man that has fallen as our Representative. He had committed no crimes. There is not a man on the continent or globe, that will, or can say, that Abraham Lincoln was his enemy, or that he deserved punishment or death for his individual acts. No, Mr. President, it was because he represented us that he died, and it is for our good and the glory of our nation that God, in his inscrutable providence, has been pleased to do this, while for the late President, it is the great crowning act and security of his ca-

reer. To die is "to go home"—to go to our Father and be relieved from sorrow, care, suffering, labor, and from danger—but to live, aye, sir, to live is the great punishment inflicted upon man. All that we can ask is to go when all things are ready—when duty is discharged, strength exhausted and the triumph effected, then it is our joy to go home to Our Father, as has been beautifully said, sir :

"When faith is strong and conscience clear,  
And words of peace the spirit cheer,  
And visioned glories then appear,  
'Tis joy—'tis triumph then to die!"

God has given our great leader the privilege to go under circumstances like this. He had lived his time, fought his fight, and, God be thanked, had kept the faith. Let me say it reverently, that for Abraham Lincoln to live, was for Abraham Lincoln to fall! He had ascended to the highest point—the highest culmination of human destiny—to be better, and greater and purer, he must leave us and go to the bosom of God. He is enjoying the highest culmination of glory that God has given in His wise and mysterious dispensation for the human family.

Sir, I had seen him but little, but that which I had seen stamped upon my heart the indelible feeling that he was a rare man—not a great or a successful man; many of both kinds have I seen, but he was a rare man who believed in the power of ideas and knew that human agencies were unable to control or direct them. In the dispensation of what men call power, I have seen Mr. Lincoln give it to the right and left as if of no consequence at all, and when reproached for so doing, I have heard him say, "What harm did this generous confidence of men do me?" I have seen, amidst the hours of trial, his manifestations of patience and confidence, more almost than human, until I had come to believe that that which is designed to be done would be accomplished, if not by human power, at least by the concurrent action and support and will of God.

Though taken from us, his influence is still here, and there is not a man in this assembly to-day who is not more impressed with his spirit and purpose than he would be if Abraham Lincoln were living at this hour; nor is there a man here to-day who is not a disciple of him and an agent of his works



forever more. We may indeed be assured that his great purpose—the Union, first of all—will be carried out. We might as well expect the Mississippi to turn back at its mouth and seek again the mountain rivulets and springs, as to believe that human power is to sunder the States of the Union. [Applause.] Abraham Lincoln's wisdom and patriotism has led us as far as human effort can bring us, and now his blood cements forever the holy Union of the States.

You know, fellow-citizens, how deeply he was interested in the destinies of Louisiana. No friend in your midst ever thought so much about or wished so much for your good as the late President of the United States; and it was among the first wishes of his heart that the prosperity of its people, the liberty of all its races, and their elevation should be perfected during his administration, or, as he said in one of his letters to me, "My word is out for these things, and I don't intend to turn back from it." [Loud applause.] It is not for me to act and speak in the spirit of prophecy, but I can say to you that I believe his wish will be consummated by the return of Louisiana to the Union, the honor, freedom and elevation of all classes of its people.

To the colored people of this assembly and State, as well as the Union, I can say that the work in which he was engaged will go on, and that the day is not far distant when they will enjoy the freedom that God and the people have given them, and also be advanced to all the privileges that under the Constitution of our country, or that of any other, God has deigned to bestow upon any class of people. But they must remember that they have a work to do, and that while God is just to all his people, he requires that they shall be just to Him. You shall be free, and invested with all the privileges of which men are capable of wise and proper exercise, for Abraham Lincoln's word is out!

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Let us, then, accept this day, its grief, and the lesson which it imparts, and be more than ever determined in the presence of God, with the ability and power he has given us, to do our duty to our country, by maintaining its institutions and perpetuating its principles and liberties. [Long and enthusiastic applause.]

At the conclusion of the address of Gen. Banks, the resolutions drafted by the committee were read by James Graham, Esq., and adopted unanimously :

WHEREAS, It has been permitted by an all-wise God that the life of Abraham Lincoln, our President, should be taken by the hand of an assassin, and that a murderous attack should be made upon William H. Seward, the Secretary of State for the United States, and both under circumstances of strange atrocity ; and whereas, the citizens of New Orleans have now gathered in solemn assembly to signify their emotion at these awful dispensations.

*Be it Resolved,* That the people of New Orleans utterly condemn and abhor these infamous deeds, by which the American name has been disgraced, the American heart rung with sorrow !

*Resolved,* That the attack upon the President and Secretary of State must inspire all friends of security and law throughout the world with apprehension and dismay ; that the safety of every government is endangered, and all the dearest rights of the citizen given to hazard by such appalling, horrible examples.

*Resolved,* That in the death of President Lincoln we mourn the loss of fervid patriotism, unwavering honesty, personal purity, a liberality which reached magnanimity, a love of liberty that was passionate, and practical, large ability. We mourn a man who, more than any other of his time, was a representative of the people of America. By the nobility of his nature, not less than by the value of his services, he won his way to the hearts of his countrymen. They loved and greatly respected him while living. Their tears flow for him now.

*Resolved,* That we learn with great satisfaction that the assault upon Mr. Seward was not wholly successful, and that the eminently serviceable labors of that distinguished statesman and true patriot may yet be continued for the benefit of the nation.

*Resolved,* That out of respect to the memory of our late President we will wear badges of mourning for thirty days ; that we will unite to-morrow in our several places of public worship imploring Divine assistance that this great public

chastening may be made the means of good to our national life, and the Ruler of the Universe will continue to vouchsafe to us that loving protection our fathers received, and which has not been hitherto withheld from us.

*Resolved*, That the citizens of New Orleans unite with the people of the nation, which Abraham Lincoln preserved, in the expression of a heartfelt sympathy for the sorrow which has suddenly invaded the family of which he was the loved and honored head. The country weeps with them.

*Resolved*, That the Chairman of this meeting be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the family of the late President, and to the Secretary of State.

General Canby was called for vociferously. He stepped forward, said he had never made a speech in his life, did not feel like making one on this occasion: and so apologizing, retired.

The Presbyterian Church, adjoining Lafayette Square, at the same time was crowded to its utmost capacity with a vast assemblage, which was presided over by his Honor, Hugh Kennedy, Mayor of the city, with a long array of Vice Presidents, among the most prominent of whom were the following:

Williamson Smith,	G. S. Denison,	C. Bullitt,
J. Q. A. Fellows,	E. C. Billings,	E. H. Durell,
A. P. Dostie,	Miles Taylor,	Robert Watson,
J. Ad. Rozier,	Jacob Barker,	Michael Hahn,
J. M. Peterson,	Samuel Bell,	S. H. Buckner,
R. M. Montgomery,	George Jonas,	W. S. Pike,
Thomas A. Sloo,	Judge Illsley,	R. K. Howell,
Charles A. Peabody,	W. R. Whitaker,	Thomas K. Price,
D. Augustin,	A. M. Buchanan,	Robert J. Ker,
Rufus Waples,	Wm. R. Mills,	Sumpter Turner,

The same resolutions as those on Lafayette Square were read by William R. Whitaker and unanimously adopted.

The President then introduced to the meeting the Hon. Christian Roselius, who spoke as follows:

#### SPEECH OF HON. CHRISTIAN ROSELIUS.

*Fellow-Citizens*—When the heart is oppressed with the profoundest grief and sorrow, it is difficult indeed to find appro-

prate words to express our feelings. The horrid deed which has deprived the nation of its Chief Magistrate, has produced such universal consternation and dismay that I am embarrassed, fellow-citizens, how to address you on this melancholy occasion, and when I look around and see your sorrow-stricken countenances and this drapery of mourning, my embarrassment is increased. You must not, therefore, expect from me on this occasion such an eulogy on the life, character and public services of Abraham Lincoln as the occasion demands. I frankly admit, fellow-citizens, that, feeling as I do, I am unequal to the task. Abraham Lincoln—a man raised by the voice of his fellow-citizens from comparatively humble station—assumed the great power vested in the President of the United States at a time fearful to look back upon. He has steered the vessel of State during the tremendous storm that has raged in this devoted country for the last four years; when the whole country was convulsed—when treason and rebellion rose in arms against it—when the people were engaged in a fratricidal war—when death and destruction stalked abroad, and ruin and desolation were spread on every side—when men who had not faith in an overruling Providence—when men who had not confidence in the institutions of the country—when even men of that description became faint-hearted and were on the point of despair. During the whole of these tremendous occurrences Abraham Lincoln stood calm, collected, firm, deliberate, with a single purpose constantly in view and never lost sight of—the purpose of preserving and vindicating the supremacy of the law—the purpose of preserving the integrity and unity of this great country—the purpose of crushing treason and rebellion, which had raised its impious hand against the best and most benevolent government that God in his mercy ever vouchsafed to man. And how did he conduct the affairs of this nation during this most eventful period of our national existence? These were critical times, and prompt, efficient measures had to be adopted; measures for which no warrant, in many instances, could be found in the ordinary legislation of the country. But steps had to be taken upon which the existence of the nation depended. A clamor was raised, and abuse was heaped on the head of the Chief Magistrate for not acting according to

the ordinary legislation of the land. But, fellow-citizens, from what quarter did this clamor and abuse arise? From those who were ignorant of the free state of the country; who in their hearts desired the overthrow of the splendid fabric, that a model, according to their extravagant notions—the Confederacy—should be established in its place.

The President adopted no measure, resorted to no means for the purpose of quelling this rebellion but what were justified and authorized by the circumstances of the occasion. Those who caviled in relation to this subject, who talked about violating the law and the Constitution, have read history to very little purpose indeed. What are the lessons that history teaches upon this subject? What has been done, what must be done, in an emergency such as the one which has arisen amongst us, when the struggle is for the nation's life? Is this self-defence of the nation to be conducted, can it be conducted effectually, by following those rules which the law has laid down for our government in times of peace and quiet? No, no, fellow-citizens. Extraordinary occasions call for extraordinary measures, and they have always been resorted to by every republic under the circumstances. Look at the Roman republic—the model republic of ancient times. The republic exercised as much power and influence as any government that ever existed on the face of the earth—a government which, in its organization, was only surpassed by the most perfect form of government of the United States of America. What did that republic do in times of public danger? When exigencies arose a dictator was appointed who was given charge to see that no detriment was suffered by the republic. How often in the history of the republic was this extraordinary remedy resorted to, and it was always resorted to successfully, for that republic flourished for nearly eight hundred years. Does it not strike the mind of every reflecting man that under the circumstances in which this country was placed, surrounded by enemies on every side, enemies in the very capital, enemies disguised under the form of friends, enemies everywhere who were determined to destroy this government, to lay low and annihilate the most perfect form of republican government that was ever devised by the intellect of man, the measures adopted were pre-eminently justifiable? What

has been the result of the wise and energetic actions of the President of the United States? Remember that when he came into office, in an evil hour his predecessor had allowed treason to hold up its head unabashed and unreprieved, and it had already made rapid strides to accomplish its hellish intentions. But at that time this honorable man was taken from his office and transferred by the voice of the people to the capital at Washington as President of the United States. Need I recall to your remembrance the first act of kindness and conciliation on his part before he was compelled to issue his first proclamation calling for seventy-five thousand men for the purpose of quelling the rebellion. What did this noble-minded, patriotic, philanthropic statesman say to the people of the South, and of the North, the East and the West? He said simply this: All that I require of you, fellow-citizens, is obedience to the law. I, as your Chief Magistrate, have sworn to see that the law is executed, and it is my determination to keep my oath inviolate. Lay down your arms—you who have raised your hands against this government; cease your treasonable acts and return to your homes. I give you time to reflect—sixty days; but if you persist in your treasonable objects and persevere in your crimes, then, as the head of the republic, I shall use measures to coerce as well as to vindicate the violated laws of the country and preserve the integrity of the nation. What was done? His warning voice was unheeded. The rebellious army was rapidly increased and danger threatened. Then what could the President do but call upon the nation to defend itself? And so he did. You might as well tell me that a man whose life is in danger, who is assaulted by such a vile assassin as cut down the President lately, ought to invoke the protection of the law and have the assassin arrested. Just as absurd, just as impracticable would such a course of reasoning be with regard to an individual as to the right of self-preservation of the nation at large, except that the right of self-preservation of a nation is vastly, vastly more important than that of a mere individual. Then the Union forces had to be arrayed against the rebel armies. In consequence of the dereliction of duty of his predecessor, the rebels gained advantages and the Union armies were defeated. Thousands of lives were lost. Did that affect the determina-

tion and faith of Abraham Lincoln? No, no. He stood firm—firm as a rock against which the waves may dash and the billows rise; he stood on the Constitution and laws of his country, and called upon the people who had elevated him to that position to come forward in defence of their country, in defence of their hearths, in defence of their families, in defence of their religion, in defence of all that is dear to man, and how nobly did the nation respond to the call of its chief. Army after army was poured forth by hundreds of thousands, and the conflict continued with the various successes and vicissitudes of war, until finally the right prevailed. The Union was preserved—the Constitution was maintained in its integrity, and the rebels were compelled to lay down their arms.

Look at the conduct of our Chief Magistrate then. Only a few weeks—nay, a few days before he was cut down by the hand of the assassin—what did he do then? Gen. Lee, finding that it was impossible to make any successful resistance—finding that his case had become absolutely desperate—surrendered to Gen. Grant under the instructions and under the superintendence of the Commander-in-Chief, the President of the United States. Look at the high-mindedness, the generosity, the forgiveness, the forgetfulness of this great and good man. Hundreds of thousands have been cut down for the purpose of crushing the rebellion. Hundreds of millions have been expended for the same purpose. The country has been desolated, mourning has been brought to the house of almost every family in the land, and yet, notwithstanding the enormity of the crimes committed by the rebels in arms, notwithstanding all this, the only condition which is exacted from them is to lay down their arms and give their parole not to bear arms against the United States hereafter; and therefore, for the purpose of sweetening, as it were, the humiliation of Gen. Lee and his army, it is added, of course, without any practical purpose, “until exchanged in due course of the war.”

Was there ever such magnanimity, such high-minded statesmanship, manifested on the face of the globe? Is there a page in history which can be cited as a parallel to that which

will record the surrender of the army of the rebels under Gen. Lee's command to Gen. Grant, representing under the President the government of the United States?

This was the last of the struggle. The agony was over, and the government was once more omnipotent within its sphere of action. Human liberty was vindicated; the practicability of self-government was demonstrated; and the President was then anxiously occupied in devising these great measures of pacification and peace which would reunite—which I trust in God will ere long reunite us once more as brethren. The very day preceding the assassination, Mr. Lincoln was in consultation with his Cabinet for this all important object, and perhaps the very next day, the day preceding his decease, a general proclamation of amnesty, of forgetfulness and forgiveness, with perhaps some exceptions with regard to arch-traitors, would in all probability have been issued. At this momentous time, when the country was in the very crisis of its fate—when the turning point was to take place—when we had arrived at the consummation of the glorious struggle for the supremacy of the law and the maintenance of the Constitution and the Union, this fell act was committed. May we not then mourn sincerely and deeply for the loss of such a man, at such a time, and under such circumstances?

Yes, yes, fellow-citizens, we may, we ought, and we do. There is not a man, I hope and trust, in the whole length and breadth of this State, but feels sincere regret for the loss of the great and good man who has been thus foully murdered, who holds in utter abhorrence and detestation the horrible deed. This direful calamity ought to teach us a lesson by which we should profit; a lesson of the necessity of respect and obedience to the laws of our country—respect and obedience to the constituted authorities appointed by ourselves as servants and ministers of the law. If we do not respect the constituted authorities, we are but a short distance from the beasts of the forests. All the advantages which pertain to humanity; all the benefits coming from civilization, are at once thrown away the moment it enters the public mind that freedom means licentiousness—that in a free country every man has a right to do what he pleases, what he considers in his crude notions as right. If we had not been forgetful of this important truth,



if we had not neglected to inculcate these lessons in the tender minds of our children and grand children, would this rebellion have taken place, and a virtuous and intelligent people, as we are, ever been so deluded, so far carried away from the path of rectitude and self-preservation, as to embark in such a treasonable undertaking as that in which a certain portion of this free republic embarked and persevered? What had we to complain of? What was there to ask for that we could not obtain? Was the law not administered and even-handed justice distributed? Was there a pretence set up by any one in office, from the President down to the humblest officer, that he was beyond the reach of the law? No, no. Were our rights invaded, our property unprotected? No one but a monomaniac or a madman could entertain so absurd an idea. Was it for the purpose of perpetuating the "peculiar institution" of the Southern States? The pretence was that the rebellion was necessary for that purpose, but nothing can be more false, for that peculiar institution, be it good or bad, could only be protected—could only be continued under the protecting ægis of the Constitution of the United States. The moment the first gun was fired on Fort Sumter, this institution was gone, annihilated forever. It is not by Northern fanaticism, not by the invasion of Southern rights that this institution has been overthrown; it is by the fanaticism, folly and crimes of Southern men themselves. They see it now, but they would not listen to the warning voice of those who were not infected by this mania, and those who followed the arch traitors and cared no more for the peculiar institution than they did for anything else, and who only wished for personal aggrandizement and titled offices. Where is the mock President now? Where are the mock officials now? They are wandering about like vagabonds without a home and without a friend. Fellow-citizens, it is painful to allude to these things, because we all have suffered for the acts of these infamous demagogues. You have suffered, I have suffered, the whole people have suffered—nay, the whole people of the civilized world; but thank God, thanks to an overruling Providence, the right cause has prevailed, and justice and right have been vindicated. The government is entire, and the supremacy of the law will be proclaimed, without a dissenting voice from one extreme

of this great country to the other. [Loud applause.] While we indulge, fellow-citizens, in the deepest regret and sorrow for the foul murder of this great and good man; while we are horror-stricken by the fell attempt of one of these miscreants on the life of one of the noblest of God's creatures—Wm. H. Seward—who was then almost struggling for life in consequence of an accident, we must submit with due resignation to the inscrutable decrees of an overruling Providence. What seems to us a sad calamity, and what is, in reality, a fearful calamity, may, in the wisdom of God, redound to the benefit of the human race. Examples might be cited, but I forbear. I have already detained you too long. Let us bear in sacred remembrance the memory of Abraham Lincoln; let us never forget the good that he has done to his country, and let him be canonized in the hearts of his countrymen as one of the martyrs to the great cause of Liberty. [Great applause.]

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The President, Mayor Kennedy, next introduced to the assembly T. J. Durant, Esq.

ADDRESS BY THOMAS J. DURANT, ESQ.

*My dear Friends and Fellow-Citizens of New Orleans*—Were I to say that I rise under the influence of sentiments of the most painful character, I should utter but feebly those emotions which now crowd upon me. In this great crisis of our nation's history we have met on the most solemn occasion that ever called patience to endure, and fortitude to suffer. Fortunately for me the spontaneous emotions in your own bosoms render it unnecessary that you should be addressed in the language of oratorical grace, or with the terms of rhetorical adornment of which I am equally incapable, and the sentiments which now, I am conscious, overpower you, render it utterly unnecessary.

The nation is plunged in mourning; a great people deplores the loss of its Chief Magistrate; Liberty mourns the decease of her most illustrious friend. Death truly is the common lot of humanity, and it has been said that the human mind regards it in the ordinary walks of life but little.

“As from the shaft the air no wound receives,  
The parted wave no furrow from the keel,  
So dies in human hearts the thought of death.”

But when he comes in all his terrors, as he has done now upon this afflicted nation, he makes the most callous mourn, and this event will be celebrated in history as the most awful that ever occurred upon the tide of time. You have witnessed its effect in the city where you live, and you must believe that the agitation which it has produced through the nation at large, is commensurate with its importance and its atrocity; and where every bosom was swelling with joy and every family elated with gladness, now all is gloom and sorrow. Such was the atrocious character of this crime when first reported to the people of New Orleans, credulity itself shrank back amazed, and we were unwilling to believe that even in these times of paricide and murder, such an event as this could occur. Our population was stricken with grief: men looked one another in the face and stood aghast, and even now each one who hears my voice feels, I am sure, as I do, not simply that he has lost a father to the country, but that some dear member of his family is gone, that he has lost some fond face over whose lineaments he was wont to linger to see its loved expression—that he has suffered that which for him in this world can never be repaired. When you look at the circumstances that have surrounded this great crime of the century—when you see the men by whom it was committed, and the position of the illustrious victim who fell, however reluctant you may be, you must impute it to preconcerted action. This was not the rash act of isolated vengeance. It was the necessary culmination of that bloody strife in which mad, guilty man has plunged a once happy people, and drenched the fair fields of our country in fraternal gore.

Our Republic has passed through but a brief space of time. This duration might be measured by some not very long human lives. Some of the men who assisted in the revolutionary struggle still linger on the stage of life amidst a grateful people, and yet while we record the duration of the life of the nation we know that America is but in her infancy. The vigor with which it has crushed the unholy reptiles, slavery and treason, gives evidence of that great strength which, in the future, will call America to perform much greater labors, and purge from the face of the earth the oppressor and destroyer of mankind. When we cast our eyes upon the pages of our country's

story, we feel that the Republic has a great destiny. Every man cannot be sensible of it. The emigrant of only yesterday feels his arteries throb with a higher pulsation under the genial air of freedom, and is conscious that he and his posterity is called upon by being citizens of this Republic, to assist in the great work of the regeneration of mankind.

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The great, good and illustrious President is no more. He fell in the hour of the nation's triumph. Death is terrible at all times, but had he even been conscious of the approach of the the destroyer he would have met him with calmness. He was prepared no doubt, for this event, though sudden. He was the hero of the moral strife and the instrument of Providence to write the great decree of the American people that the cursed system of slavery should cease in this land. It was his hand that produced that sacred document, that transmitted safety and freedom to the posterity of a whole race inhabiting this soil. The illustrious dead was a man of whom it might well be said he had no personal enemies. His heart was without guile: he was the model of sincerity. His eye was turned in fond solicitude towards the South. The nation has lost its father—the people have lost the best representative of the sacred character of the republican system, which takes every man by the hand and refuses none—the glorious example of the holy dogma of equality upon which American republicanism is founded. This great painful and terrible event cannot be without its effect upon the mind of the nation.

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His honor the Mayor then introduced James T. Brady, Esq., of New York city, who was received with applause, both loud and long.

#### ADDRESS OF MR. BRADY.

*Mr. President and Ladies and Gentlemen*—If I consulted the condition of my voice and my personal feelings at this moment, I would find myself exceedingly gratified to be permitted to in silence, bear my testimony to the appropriate sentiment of the time; but not feeling myself at liberty to decline, I will do myself the honor to say a few words.

*Ladies and Gentlemen*—If a man past fifty years of age, sitting in the place of public amusement, in one of the few hours of

relaxation snatched from years of hard labor, seated by his wife and surrounded by friends, should, at any period of the civilization of mankind, have been stricken down by the ruthless hand of a cowardly assassin, the announcement of that fact would have horrified humanity, and the infamous act been loaded with the obloquy it would deserve; but when the blow was struck at the head of a great nation, the announcement of that fact should be so felt that the man whose blood did not tingle as if on fire is not deserving to live among his fellows, on the earth. [Applause].

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Abraham Lincoln is gone, and yet neither the North, East or West will be injured in prosperity, but I say to men of Southern birth and principles that the danger consequent upon this homicide strikes at their purpose and condition. We can all admire genius, bravery and devotion wherever displayed. I can shed a tear over the grave of Stonewall Jackson, and feel a sympathy with the proud spirit of Gen. Robert E. Lee, when he surrendered to an unavoidable necessity, but I wish I had the power to express my undying detestation and loathing hatred of that man who will skulk, to benefit any cause, by murdering, in the dark or light, a fellow creature. [Applause.]

Abraham Lincoln, to my personal knowledge, had a warm, tender, generous and liberal feeling towards the erring people of the South, and I have no doubt went out of this world without one feeling of malice against any man connected with secession—not even towards Jefferson Davis himself. He has gone, but if he had died in his bed, unassailed by malefactor, however much we might have regretted his loss, we would recognize his death as the common doom of mankind, for we pass away even as the flowers do, and breathe our lives upon the wind as they, and there is no spectacle more impressive and consoling than to see an old man upon his bier when you can say that “After life’s fitful fever, he sleeps well,” and in the gifted language of an eloquent writer, that “Every wrinkle upon his brow is but a notch in the calendar of a well spent life.”

But the death of the President, sad as it is, will not throw the administration of our government into confusion, for the

necessities of the race produce men competent to take charge of and fulfil the duties of the office. As at the beginning of the war we were almost without anything but men who never supposed that by any possibility their names would become distinguished, but who now have shown themselves competent for almost any position or emergency. They will furnish us with every means of reconstructing our now about to be reunited country, and I hope the Lord will permit the humble individual who to-night addresses you to behold again this land made happy and prosperous through their exertions.

I am sorry that any of this country should have ever left this flag before us—the flag of Marion, Sumter and Jackson himself, in the days when he and his gallant soldiers drove Pakenham out of this beautiful country, but since they have done so, I ask those who have more influence and power in the land than I, to turn aside the pressure of wrath, to dismiss anger from their hearts and to pray and entreat of the Southern people to assist in raising this country up and re-establishing and augmenting her prosperity among the nations of the earth. If they will do this both their posterity and yours will repent of their ever having left it, and make it as of old, and agree that it shall ever be the symbol of protection at the North Pole, and at the South as well as at the Equator, of every American. I say in the language which the great dramatist has put in the mouth of Richard, “Ay, sir, the stars have told and our own historical and prophetic souls confirm the shining sybils.”



From the N. O. Times, April 23d, 1865.

#### THE CEREMONIES OF YESTERDAY.

The display of popular grief yesterday on account of the sad loss sustained by the nation in the death of Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States, was something to be long remembered. All over this great city hardly a dwelling or place of business could be found that was not more or less elaborately draped with the insignia of pervading woe. Streets were silent; passengers wore grave faces; a Sabbath quiet rested everywhere with more than a Sabbath's solemnity. Public interest centered on the two great meetings at Lafayette Square and the First Presbyterian Church. Long before the appointed hour crowds began to gather, and

when noon arrived the throng of citizens in that vicinity was immense. There has been no such outpouring of the masses in New Orleans for many years, and the serious demeanor everywhere presented, as well as the badges of mourning which almost every one wore, testified to the depth of the feeling awakened by recent deplorable events. One thing struck us as particularly noticeable—the long list of names of old citizens who had readily consented to act as officers of the meetings, and who thus, in a great many instances, for the first time for years, took part in a public demonstration in this city. The reading of these names created a profound impression, and was convincing proof that there is but one opinion extant in this community regarding the horrible crime which has deprived the nation of its foremost servant, defender and benefactor. The speeches of the distinguished citizens and officers which we this morning publish in full, are each worthy of careful perusal and serious consideration. The resolutions adopted, we believe, express the real sentiments of our people on the subjects to which they refer. But what more than anything else gave the assurance of the depth and sincerity of the sorrow prevailing among our people at the melancholy end of our late Chief Magistrate, was the sad stillness and decorum which characterized both the assemblages forming parts of the grand display of yesterday.

The Committee of Arrangements deserve the thanks of every citizen for the commendable manner in which they discharged the onerous duties entrusted to them.

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## APPENDIX.

### AN IMPRESSIVE ADDRESS.

This morning, in the Jewish Synagogue the Rev. D. Illowy delivered a most impressive and affecting sermon to his congregation.

TEXT—11 SAM., III. 32.

“ And when King David heard that his friend Abner had been assassinated by the murderous hand of Joab, he wept at

his grave and thus lamented : Must Abner die the death of the wicked ?

“ Thy hands were not bound, nor thy feet put into fetters ; as a man falleth before wicked men, so did'st thou fall. And all the people wept again over him.

“ And when all the people came to cause David to eat meat while it was yet day, David sware, saying : So do God to me, and more, also, if I taste bread or aught else till the sun be down.

“ And the King said unto his servants, know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel.”

*My Brethren*—My text which I just now read before you, will probably tell you that it must be a melancholy and sad occasion that impels me to-day to address you with a broken heart, depressed mind, and an afflicted soul, which on any other occasion, however melancholy it might be, would be regarded as a violation of the sacred hilarity of the Lord's day. But I cannot restrain myself from uttering my feelings of a woe which will tear the hearts of millions at home and abroad, when hearing of the great calamity which befell our country. Sons of Abraham ! you have all heard the heartrending news which has thrown the whole nation into the deepest depth of sorrow and affliction. Sons of Abraham ! you have heard of the most terrible event—that Abraham, the dearly beloved father of our country, is no more. The great Ruler of the Universe pleased to call him home to the Father's house, and as once, to our patriarch—He said unto him, Abram, get thee out of thy country, from thy kindred, from thy people, and go into a land which I will show thee ; Abram is gone as the Lord has commanded him to ascend the glorious throne which his hand has erected for his beloved ones, in a land of eternal bliss and perpetual happiness, where the righteous earns the fruits of his righteousness, where the sun never sets, where there is always day and never night. Oh ! my friends, how gladly did we listen last Sabbath to the glorious news, to the happy and cheerful tidings which filled our hearts with joy, with overflowing pleasure, and with feelings of gratitude to our Heavenly Father for the gracious favors which He has bestowed upon us, through His faithful servant Abraham, whilst millions who were nearer to the place of calamity were weeping



Over the great loss of the best of men who ever lived on the American soil. Oh! how short are all earthly pleasures, shorter than a nightly dream; they vanish away like a morning cloud. Soon and sudden did the Lord convert our joy into sorrow, our tears of pleasure into tears of deep affliction. Last Sabbath we all cheerfully exclaimed with pious King David, Thank ye the Lord for He is good; His mercy endureth forever, and to-day already we must weep with him, and like him when he mourned for his friend Abner, we must call Mourn House of Israel, lift up thy clamorous voice, house of Judah, for a prince, a great man, has fallen to-day. Like David, when standing at the grave of his assassinated friend, we call after the departed father of our bereaved country, Abraham thy hands were never bound, and thy feet were never put in chains. No, thy hands were never bound by the wiles of others, by the ties of flattery, or by the galling manacles of fear; thou didst hear nothing, but the wishes of thy people, thou didst fear none but God, who alone was thy guide and trust, and who was with thee as He has promised on the night of terror, "Fear not, Abram, I am thy shield." Thy hands were always active, always stretched forth to help, when and where thy help was needed. Thy feet were not put in chains, never restrained by selfishness, never checked by ambition, but with self-denial, with noble ardor, with paternal love and a brave and courageous heart, didst thou walk before thy people, to save their honor, guard thy rights, and restore peace and harmony to their gates; and thou hast succeeded. Thou hast succeeded and hast achieved glorious victories over enemies whom thou hast not trodden down with rigor, but turned into friends, who now bow down with deference and sincere repentance before our glorious banner of liberty and equality.

Thou hast wound thyself lovingly around the hearts of millions with gentle ties, which even the destructive tooth of time can never loosen. Ages will roll upon ages, but thy memory will still live in the hearts of thy countrymen until the latest generations. Thou hast succeeded to see the full accomplishment of the last work of thy life, and the total disappearance of the storm-pregnant clouds which were thickly brooding over our country, threatening it with total ruin. Thou hast succeeded and hast seen, before the sunset of thy life, the blissful fruits of the tree which thou hast planted and

moistened with the precious blood of thy noble heart—thou wast permitted to see, but not to enjoy them, and like unto the great Teacher of mankind, the Redeemer of Isarel, did the Lord say unto thee, “Get thee up on this mountain; from there shalt thou see the land which I have given unto thy people, and when thou hast seen it, then shalt thou be gathered unto thy brothers who are gone before thee.”

My Brethren—Without any disloyalty to the worthy successor of Abraham Lincoln we may openly avow how deeply and bitterly we deplore his loss, how deeply it has effected us; and the intelligence so sudden and so unexpected, of his having been cut down like a stalk of corn, and fallen under the murderous hand of an infernal fiend, so staggered our belief, that we could hardly realize the awful fact, had not the general lamentation confirmed the said report, that the good and noble minded father has been called hence by the King of Kings.

He is gone; he is no more; but his spirit will continue to live in the heart of his worthy successor, and his memory will forever be a blessed one in the hearts of his countrymen, as in the pages of history, for his name commences a new era in the history of the greatest and most powerful republic that ever existed on earth.

He is gone and is no more. Duly and well prepared he gave up his body to corruption, and his soul he rendered into the hand of the Father of all souls who had given it. His body lies now like once our father Jacob, on a cold piece of ground, with a stony pillow under his head, sleeping the sweet sleep of the righteous, but the spirit has ascended the ladder of life on which God’s ministering angels are ascending and descending.

And may the stone under his head make his grave the sacred place where his weary bones rest, a holy temple, in which his latest successors may yet hear with awe and deference the voice of truth and justice, which arise from the grave of Abraham Lincoln, whose memory will forever be, amongst all of us, a blessed one. Amen.



AN EXPRESSION BY THE COLORED PEOPLE OF NEW ORLEANS.

The following speech, delivered by Henry Baker, has been

printed in circular form under the auspices of the colored people in this city. Its plain, simple, pathetic diction will commend the paper to every true mind and heart :

Glad tidings elate him who hears them, and his exuberant spirit finds natural vent in joyful expression. But silence is the sure sign of sorrow, and when the heart is full it is difficult to speak.

The death of Abraham Lincoln has thrown a funeral pall over the country. Millions of hearts are wrung with grief for his loss. As he was firm of purpose, but at the same time full of simplicity and gentleness, we loved him. Nor can we replace him, and only hope some historian will hereafter rise to do him justice, and place his name among the most devoted and constant statesmen who have lived among men and defended government.

But let us not suffer the occasion to pass without condemning the crime of the assassin Booth. Steeped in the colors of his trade, justice will soon send him to answer the summons of a greater than any human judge, but his wicked crime will be remembered forever ; and long after his body has returned to the earth, as it was, his name will be spoken by old and young with detestation and horror.

But yesterday the sky was blue, and the star of peace shone a golden spangle to cheer mankind ; to-day the clouds of grief oppress every heart, and heaven as well as earth seems to be dressed in the black garment of woe.

All mankind will mourn the death of the universal philanthropist ; but Americans must feel more poignant grief for the loss of their Chief Magistrate ; and we, my friends, still deeper sorrow for the friend of the colored man. Forever honored be his name.

But while we pay this merited tribute to the dead, while we toll the funeral bell, close our places of business and drape in black crape the flag which has lost the best friend it ever knew, let us not forget that it is our duty as good men to restore order and keep it, and to protect those who had no part in an unnatural crime, from being confounded with its wicked perpetrators.

No memorial has been preserved of the exact words employed by Rev. Dr. J. P. Newman in the eloquent prayer made on the occasion. It was earnest and impressive, and as far as remembered of the following tenor :

Almighty and Most Merciful God : Bowed down with sorrow, we appear this day in Thy presence, and humbly supplicate Thy favor and protection.

We thank Thee for the wisdom and intelligence which adorned the life of the illustrious ruler of the American people—in the benefactions that have come through him, in Thy providence, to them and to the world—for every good thought and deed that have immortalized his name.

Be near and sustain us this day in our grief and affliction. We mourn the loss of a loving friend and father.

Almighty God ! we pray Thee to console his beaeaved wife and children—vouchsafe, we pray Thee, consolation to a nation in tears.

In the midst of this fearful dispensation, teach us to remember that through Thy agency, providence and care, this great and good man was raised up to guide and direct a great people in the hour of its adversity, and when its national integrity was endangered. Let us be ever mindful of Thy agency in this, and that we have in this been Thy peculiar care. Thou hast strengthened his purposes ; Thou hast quickened his intelligence ; Thou hast made him powerful to resist and overcome all opposition. In the darkest hour of national calamity and impending ruin, Thou hast been near to encourage and sustain him. In Thy good providence Thou hast preserved him to the hour when the goal of his hopes had been reached, when he saw the triumphant banner of the Union full high advanced, and again gathering under its ample folds the misguided men whom fell ambition or fancied wrong had led astray.

We thank Thee for the excellent virtues with which Thou didst clothe the chosen leader of the nation ; for the truth, honor and sincerity ; for the goodness, gentleness and sobriety that marked his every action. Thou hast implanted in his heart a love of home, of kindred of the whole human family, and we bless Thee that his great soul was thus so largely

filled with love of country. And more than all we thank Thee for the religious fervor that adorned his life and actions and caused him in humble faith to look to Thee as the controller of the affairs of men and nations.

In Thy good providence Thou hast permitted this great and good man, at the very moment that the object of his labors were accomplished, to be stricken unto death by the hands of wicked men. It is not for us, Thy servants, to question the decree, but to bow humbly before our God, and to pray that the blood thus shed may cause, through this broad land, to cease the strife of brethren, unite again the bonds that should never have been sundered—bring peace to our people, and an end to our national troubles.

—o—

Letters were written on the 19th, to many leading men of New Orleans requesting them to take part in the proceedings, and to address the people on the 22d. The following reply by one of the speakers, is so characteristic of the writer that we make it part of these memorials :

NEW ORLEANS, April 19th, 1865.

HON. J. S. WHITAKER,

*Dear Sir* :—I have just received your note requesting me to address the citizens of New Orleans, on the sad event which has thrown the whole nation in mourning, and in reply beg leave to say that I will perform the mournful task assigned to me according to your request.

Your Fellow Mourner,

C. ROSELIUS.

—o—

Copies of the resolutions were furnished to Mrs. Lincoln and Mr. Seward. The following is a copy of the letter sent Mrs Lincoln :

NEW ORLEANS, April 24th, 1865.

*Madam* :—The People of New Orleans have expressed their sympathy for you and your family in the affliction a good Providence has suffered to come to you and them : the President was ever a kind friend to us The enclosed resolutions

are transmitted to you at the request of twenty thousand of our citizens.

May God bless you and yours.

I am, Madam, with great respect,

J. S. WHITAKER,

Chairman, etc.

MRS. ABRAHAM LINCOLN,

Washington, D. C.

—o—

A DIRGE FOR THE DEAD.

BY M. F. BIGNEY, ESQ.

Goddess of Liberty, bow down thy head :

Thy chosen chief is dead !

In dust and ashes let the nation mourn :

HE'S gone to that far bourne—

HE, whom the people honored ; HE, the wise,

Who fought for honor's prize ;

HE, whom the armies revered—the good,

Who every lure withstood ;

HE, whom the ransomed worshipped ; HE, the blest,

Has gone to his great rest !

When through war's storm-cloud the fair silver light

Of Peace appeared most bright,

Red-handed murder raised against his life

The pistol and the knife,

And HE, the great, the good, the nation's chief,

Fell, leaving all in grief.

“ Hung be the Heaven's in black ! ” Let all earth take

To sable for his sake.

NEW ORLEANS, April 22d, 1865.

LOUISIANA'S TRIBUTE

TO THE MEMORY OF

ABRAHAM LINCOLN,

President of the United States.

*Public Demonstration in the City of New Orleans.*

APRIL 22, 1865.

RESOLUTIONS, SPEECHES OF CHRISTIAN ROSELIUS  
AND OTHERS, ETC., ETC.,

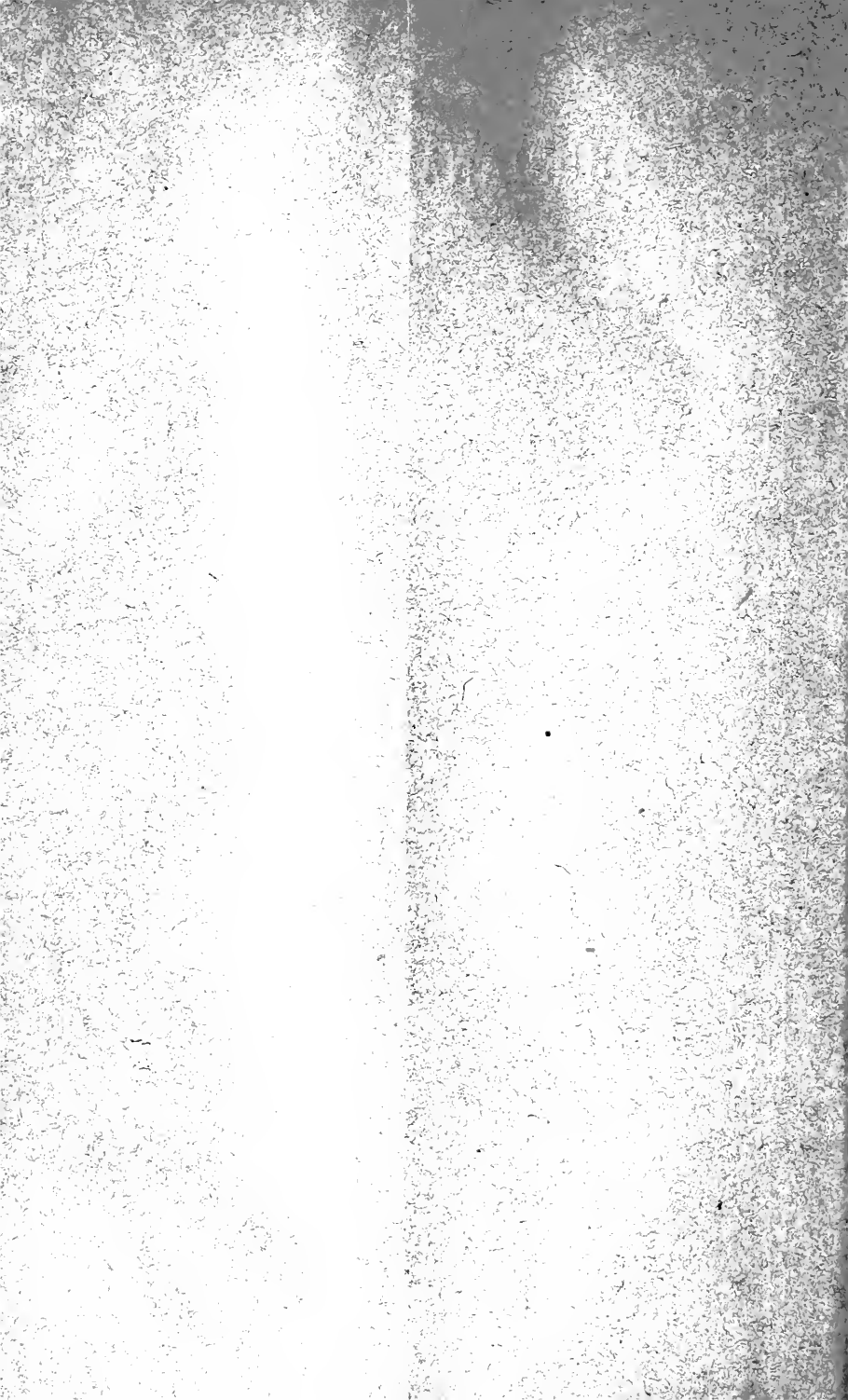
COMPILED BY J. S. WHITAKER, CHAIRMAN.

NEW ORLEANS:

PICAYUNE OFFICE JOB PRINT, 66 CAMP STREET.

1861.

*Handwritten notes:*  
to C. H. Sawyer Esq  
Compliments of J. S. Whitaker







JOHN T. WHITAKER,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
MORRIS BUILDING, Cor. Canal & Camp Sts.  
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DR. J. B. WATTS.  
E H Sweet Esq.

25 Madison St.

New York N.Y.





JOHN T. WHITAKER,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW,  
MORRIS BUILDING, Cor. Canal & Camp Sts.  
NEW ORLEANS, LA.



*E. A. Sauer Esq.*

*25 Bianna Street.*

*Har West.*

*W.A.*

NEW YORK, N. Y.  
NOV 2 1903  
4 - PM  
TRANSIT

WESTON  
NOV 2 1903

JOHN T. WHITAKER,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

MORRIS BUILDING, Cor. Canal & Camp Sts.

NEW ORLEANS, LA.



*E. A. Sauer Esq.*

*25 Bienville St.*

*New York.*

*N.Y.*



John F. Whitaker,  
Attorney and Counsellor at Law.

New Orleans, Oct 9<sup>th</sup> 1903

E. H. Sauer Esq.  
25 Miami St.  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir

Yours to the Registry Office New Orleans of date Oct 5/03  
Regarding Louisiana Probate to the memory of Abraham Lincoln  
was sent me today. This Probate was written & published by my

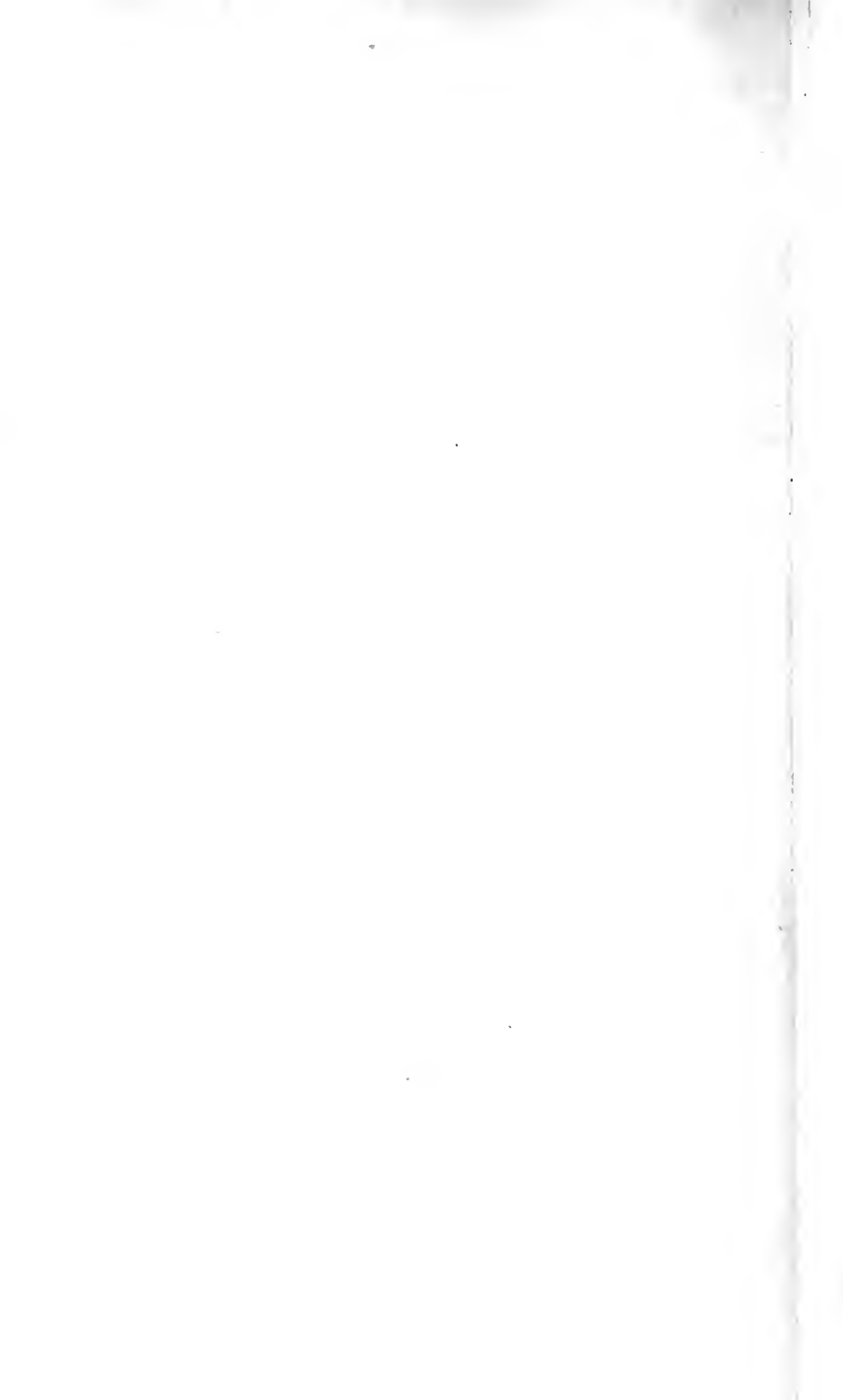


Father Judge J. S. Whiteaker who was a warm friend and ardent  
supporter of President Lincoln. My father has been dead some years.

If you will kindly let me know what you desire with the work I  
will look ~~up~~ among his papers and find if there are any copies  
left. The work was prepared to be put in the room connected with  
the Lincoln monument and quite a number of copies were

given to his friends -

Very truly  
Yours J. S. Whiteaker





John F. Whitaker,  
Attorney and Counsellor at Law.

New Orleans. Oct 31<sup>st</sup> 1903

E. A. Sacket Esq  
25 Poydras St

New York, N.Y.

My dear Sir

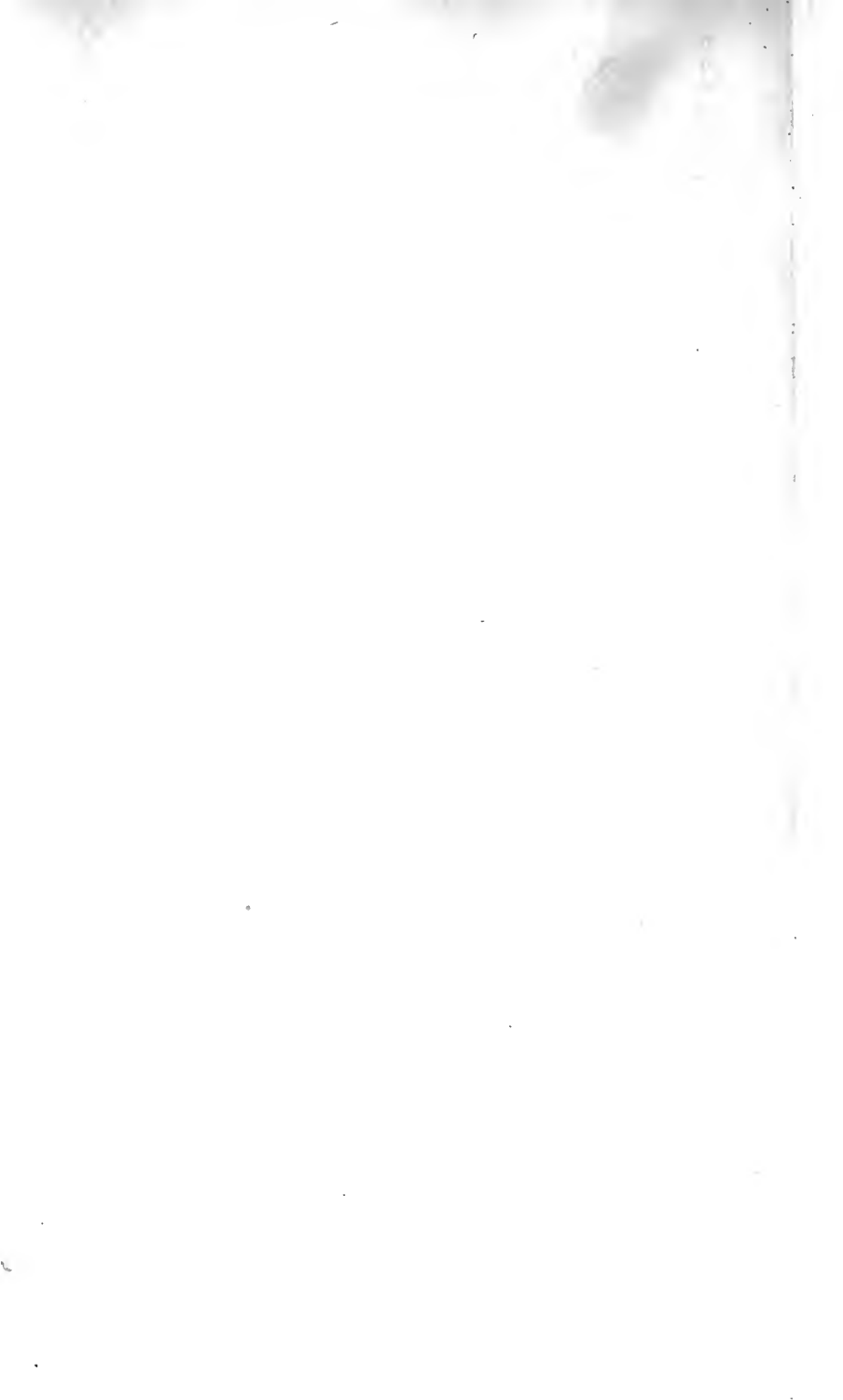
Your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> Inst came after I had written  
thanking you for the picture of your law office

The answer "The specimen"

That there was only a limited number of copies  
printed of my father's "White" to a plan which

my own security was to be secured & these  
as before stated were presented to friends

etc. Regarding the letter of President Lincoln  
to my father - these I report to say you cannot





John F. Whitaker,

Attorney and Counsellor at Law.

New Orleans.

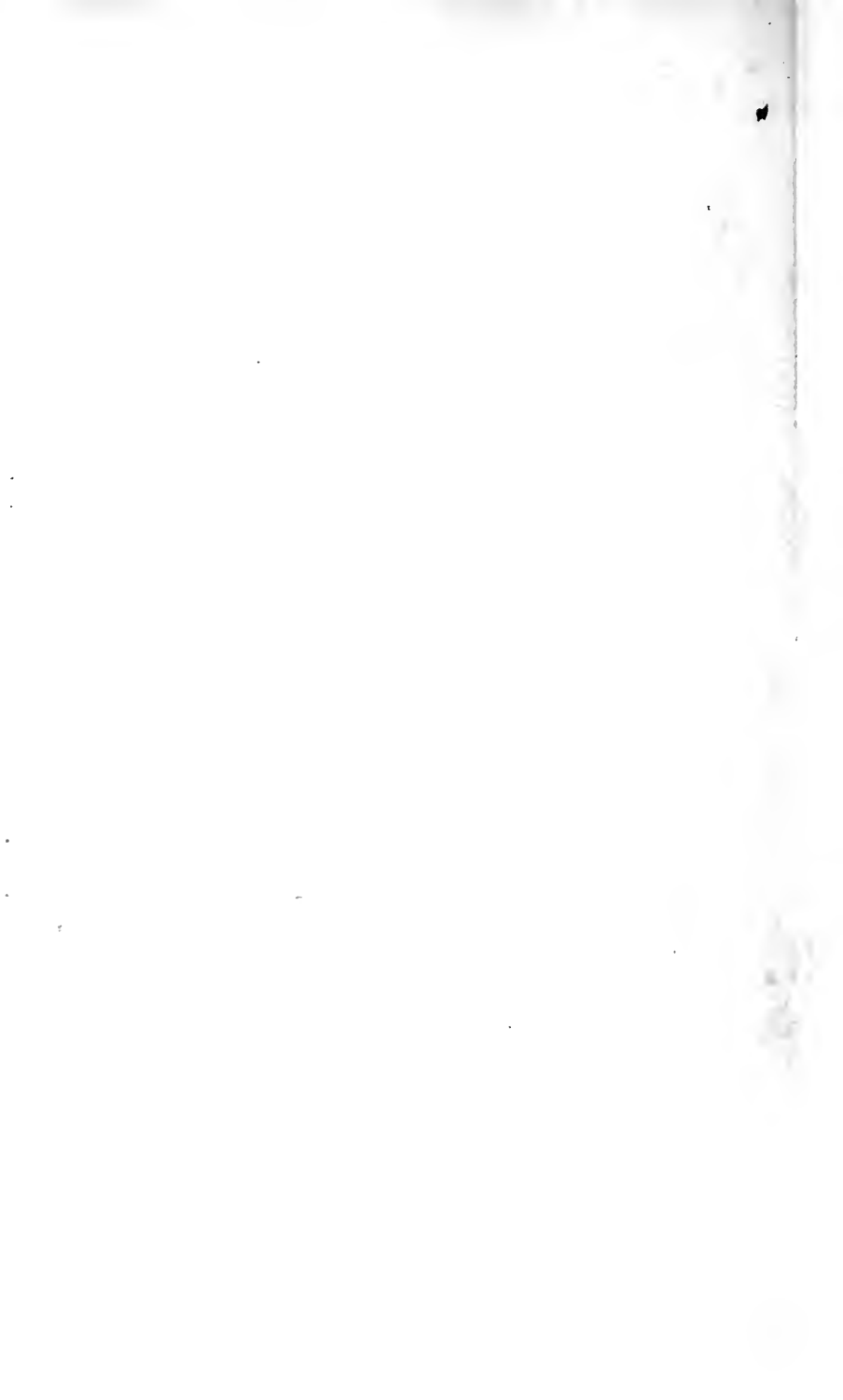
Get. They are bound with letters from Messrs Chase, Cushing,  
Stanton and other personal friends of my father & are  
among his papers - they are not allowed out of the house.

The following story was told by my

father. In the early October he went to Washington to



An important business which requires me coming  
upon President Lincoln - It was the first time  
I had met - After being ushered into the Presidents  
room they further opened the interview by saying  
"President Lincoln a great many people have  
told me we love you much alike" - The President  
took my fathers hand - looked into his face  
with a quizzical smile and said in his strong





John F. Whitaker,

Attorney and Counsellor at Law.

New Orleans.

"Judge Whitaker that is the most handsome  
thing I have ever heard about myself" The two  
were warm friends after this. There was a wonderful  
warmth between the men especially in their frames  
& coloring perhaps also in their features for

Killing Stones -

My brother

Geo. J. Whitaker





John T. Whitaker,  
Attorney and Counsellor at Law.

New Orleans, Oct 15/03

E. H. Sauer Esq  
25 Poydras St

Yan West, N.Y.

Dear Sir

Yours of the 13<sup>th</sup> inst received.

It gives me great pleasure to present to you one of my  
father's Louisiana's Mobile to the memory of Abraham Lincoln "The world has  
not written to give the best picture in the world of the great  
man."



not written at that time or at all

Only a few copies were printed and these were presented to the General  
Prints. The exceedingly limited number I have left (less than  
half a dozen) prompts my sending you more. My father was a  
warm personal friend of President our color. My correspondence a  
great deal concerning the early activities of this Institute was written  
because of his high administrative and love of the man.

Very truly  
Yours,  
J. A. Foster

Enclosure.







